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CONC Divisional of Appln. Serial No. 09/237,825

08/160,194, filed December 9, 1993, all of which are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-9 and add new claims 10-29 as follows.

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CONT'D

10. A method for storing text for electronic books to be displayed on a viewer, comprising:
 - displaying an indication of a plurality of electronic books on a viewer;
 - receiving a request to view one of the electronic books;
 - selectively displaying pages for the selected electronic book; and
 - downloading text material for the selected electronic book from a portable storage medium.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein the downloading step includes downloading the text material from at least one of the following: a smart card; an electronic memory card; and a PCMCIA card.
12. The method of claim 10, further including associating a unique key with the text material.
13. The method of claim 12 wherein the downloading step includes selectively downloading the text material based upon the unique key.

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CONT'D

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the selectively downloading step includes:
comparing the unique key with a key for the viewer; and
preventing the downloading if the unique key does not match the key for the viewer.
15. The method of claim 10 wherein the downloading step includes decrypting the text material.
16. The method of claim 10 wherein the downloading step includes decompressing the text material.
17. The method of claim 10, further including permitting a user to purchase the electronic books.
18. The method of claim 10 wherein the downloading step includes limiting access to the text material based upon a time parameter.
19. The method of claim 10 wherein the downloading step includes limiting access to the text material based upon a number of downloads and viewing of the text material.
20. A viewer for displaying electronic books, comprising:
a portable viewer having a processor, a memory for storing instructions, a memory for storing electronic books, and a display for displaying the electronic books, wherein the processor operates under control of the instructions to execute a method comprising:

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CONT'D

displaying an indication of a plurality of electronic books on the viewer; receiving a request to view one of the electronic books; selectively displaying pages for the selected electronic book; and downloading text material for the selected electronic book from a portable storage medium.

21. The viewer of claim 20 wherein the downloading step includes downloading the text material from at least one of the following: a smart card; an electronic memory card; and a PCMCIA card.
22. The viewer of claim 20, further including associating a unique key with the text material.
23. The viewer of claim 22 wherein the downloading step includes selectively downloading the text material based upon the unique key.
24. The viewer of claim 23 wherein the selectively downloading step includes:
comparing the unique key with a key for the viewer; and
preventing the downloading if the unique key does not match the key for the viewer.
25. The viewer of claim 20 wherein the downloading step includes decrypting the text material.